

## December 2004 - Early Action Compact Progress Report Beaufort County



1. In an effort to keep our contact information updated; please provide the following information for your county:

	Name	Telephone	E-mail Address
Administrator/Manager	<b>Gary Kubic</b>	<b>843-470-2501</b>	<b>gkubic@bcgov.net</b>
EAC contact	<b>John Holloway</b>	<b>843-470-2732</b>	<b>johndh@bcgov.net</b>

2. List any progress (if applicable) since your June 2004 submittal? (stakeholder meetings, events held; special projects; etc.)

<sup>1</sup>Beaufort County has embarked upon developing a regional plan for the southern portion of the County with a plan for the northern portion to follow. It includes municipal input and membership on a Steering Committee that will develop the plan (along with staff and a consultant). Included in this regional plan (which also includes Jasper County/City of Hardeeville) so far, are discussions of air quality issues. We will know if and how the Steering Committee (and staff and consultants) will address them as the process moves down the road. <sup>2</sup>Beaufort County has also recently passed a Traffic Impact Analysis Ordinance, which is designed to be an additional study for developments to address as they propose their development plans. It takes into account the potential pressures a development scenario would place on the existing transportation infrastructure. Based on this information the County could then require the developers to pay for any improvements to mitigate the impacts. <sup>3</sup>Beaufort County, since 2000, has had a \$40 million bond funded land preservation program. The goal is to remove rural and critical lands from development pressures and set it aside as open space. Therefore there are no commercial or residential developments, which would contribute to the increase in impervious surface and traffic. To date we have protected almost 10,000 acres (countywide) with this program and with assistance from outside sources.

3. In March 2004, the local Early Action Plan included emission reduction strategies to be implemented no later than April 2005. Do you continue to be on schedule to implement those strategies? Yes: XX No: \_\_\_\_\_

4. What assistance is needed from our office to assist you in implementing the emission reduction strategies by April 2005?

If SCDHEC has any background information or results from studies indicating (with hard numbers if possible) that certain strategies aid in reducing ground level ozone that we could utilize to aid our endeavors with other departments and entities to reduce emissions and other practices that contribute to ground level ozone.

5. Are you aware of activities being held within your county that were not included in the March 2004 EAP (i.e., gas can exchange events; public outreach and educational events; “Grow” workshops; are their cities within your county designated as “Tree City USA”, etc.)?

<sup>1</sup>The City of Beaufort and the Town of Hilton Head Island are both in the Tree City USA program. Both continue to hold Arbor Day tree plantings.

<sup>2</sup>Clemson Extension Service in Beaufort offers free tree seedlings in conjunction with Arbor Day. <sup>3</sup>The Beaufort County Zoning and Development Standards Ordinance places emphasis on landscaping by requiring developments to provide landscaped buffers, parking lots and street trees. It also places great emphasis on preserving native forests, wetlands and vegetation in all developments by requiring preservation of all or most of these habitats as open space (i.e. undeveloped).

6. Do you have any requests for specific assistance from the Department and/or the EPA?

Same as number 4.

7. If possible, please provide electronic signatures of person(s) completing this report

Supervisor/Manager/Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

EAC Contact: John Holloway      Date: December 7, 2004